

**Annual Report to the  
North Carolina General Assembly**

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***Status Report on Individually Permitted  
Discharging Systems***

**July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018**

**Division of Water Resources**



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

## Summary

North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) 143-215.9A requires the Department of Environmental Quality to report to the Environmental Review Commission and the Fiscal Research Division on the status of facilities discharging into surface waters during the previous fiscal year. Facilities discharging into surface waters are required by N.C.G.S. 143-215.1 to first apply for and secure a permit from the Environmental Management Commission. As a result, the data provided within this fiscal report is captured for those facilities individually permitted with National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits.

The enclosed report details the inspections completed and the enforcement actions taken in North Carolina during fiscal year 2017-2018 by the Division of Water Resources. In addition, information on Special Orders by Consent is included. The report also includes a table showing the number of permits issued by region and the names and locations of the individually permitted discharging facilities.

The enclosed tables list totals for each of the department's regional offices as well as state totals. The regional offices are noted as follows:

- ◆ ARO – Asheville Regional Office
- ◆ FRO – Fayetteville Regional Office
- ◆ MRO – Mooresville Regional Office
- ◆ RRO – Raleigh Regional Office
- ◆ WARO – Washington Regional Office
- ◆ WIRO – Wilmington Regional Office
- ◆ WSRO – Winston-Salem Regional Office

If any additional information or clarification is needed, please contact Brianna Young at 919-707-3619.



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## **ADDENDUM**

The following is provided to support the information in the above status report.

- As found in Table 1, “Other Permit Condition Violations” may include
  - ❑ Discharge violations (resulting from collection system overflows)
  - ❑ Submitting late discharge monitoring reports
  - ❑ Submitting late toxicity tests
  - ❑ Permit condition violations (for example, violations of a pre-treatment program, improper operation and maintenance of treatment works, or by-pass of treatment works)
- As found in Table 2, “Other Inspections” include:
  - ❑ **Audit Inspections:** A comprehensive review of all elements of a municipal’s pretreatment program including a records review and an inspection of an industrial facility conducted once every five years.
  - ❑ **Bioassay Compliance Inspections:** Evaluates the biological effect of a permittee’s effluent discharge on test organisms using acute and chronic toxicity testing.
  - ❑ **Compliance Sampling Inspections (CSI):** A sampling inspection designed to verify the permittee’s compliance with applicable permit self-monitoring requirements. Analytical results from representative samples collected during the inspection are used to evaluate the permittee’s compliance.
  - ❑ **Diagnostic Inspections:** An inspection that focuses on publicly owned treatment works that have not achieved permit compliance. The purpose is to identify the causes of noncompliance, suggest immediate remedies and support current or future enforcement action.
  - ❑ **Operation & Maintenance Inspections:** An inspection that focuses on the operation and maintenance aspect of a facility.
  - ❑ **Performance Audit Inspections:** Inspections that include actual observation of the permittee performing the self-monitoring process from sample collection and flow measurements through laboratory analyses, data work-up and reporting.
  - ❑ **Pre-Treatment Inspections:** An annual inspection of a municipal’s pretreatment program.
  - ❑ **Toxicity Sampling Inspections:** The same as the Compliance Sampling Inspections mentioned above, however, increased emphasis is placed on toxic substances regulated by the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.
- Effective July 1, 1998, the director of the then Division of Water Quality delegated each regional water quality supervisor the authority to sign all civil penalty assessments for fast-track enforcement actions for violations of NPDES permit effluent limits and/or monitoring frequencies in accordance with N.C. General Statute 143-215.6A.
- Due to the length of the post assessment process, total civil penalties assessed and total civil penalties collected will not coincide.

